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INTERNATIONAL

To: Fairtrade Cocoa producers and traders
Fairtrade members
cc: Standards Committee
Fairtrade International staff
FLOCERT staff

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Cocoa Price communication: New validity for regulated markets

Dear Partners,

For regulated markets in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, the Standards & Pricing Unit announced new [cocoa prices in December 2025](#). These prices were originally scheduled to take effect on 1st of October 2026 in line with the main harvest seasons in both countries. The Standards & Pricing Unit hereby communicates that the validity might come into effect one month earlier.

At the beginning of 2026, the regulatory authority in Côte d'Ivoire, the Conseil du Café-Cacao, revised the timing of its mid-crop season from usually April–September to now March–August. As a result, the main season is expected to start one month earlier, in September instead of October. Official confirmation of the exact dates for the next main season is still pending and may be announced only shortly in advance.

Fairtrade would like to inform all cocoa partners that it remains committed to implement new Fairtrade prices in regulated markets at the official start of the main season which will be defined by the regulatory authorities in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Should the definition of the main season for regulated markets be changed, the Standards & Pricing Unit will send an official announcement and change the validity in the Fairtrade pricing table accordingly. This might come with short notice. Should nothing change, there will be no announcement letter and new Fairtrade prices will become valid from October 1st as announced in December 2025. Once the regulatory authorities announce their prices and dates for the main season, Fairtrade will publish its Fairtrade Minimum Price (FMP) differential, based on the new Fairtrade prices. These will take effect immediately upon announcement.

Fairtrade recommends that all cocoa partners take these expected timing changes into account when planning and contracting for the upcoming main harvest season in regulated markets.

It is important not to leave any gap between the official start of the main season and the implementation of new Fairtrade prices to ensure clarity and transparency for producers and value chain partners regarding Fairtrade pricing. Changing Fairtrade prices during an ongoing season might put producers in a vulnerable position which Fairtrade is determined to avoid.

The comprehensive list of all current Fairtrade Prices is available as always in the Pricing Table on our website under: <http://www.fairtrade.net/price-and-premium-info.html>.



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For more information, please contact Standards & Pricing at standards-pricing@fairtrade.net

Best regards,

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